

CAPSULE SUMMARY - LEROY DOWELL BARN 'A' (CT - 1092)

Leroy Dowell barn 'A' comprises the southern half of a two-barn complex. Located on the west side of Clyde Jones Road approximately one mile from its intersection with Maryland Route 2, the privately-owned barn is oriented on a east-west axis. The barn consists of an eight-room center section of heavy timber-frame construction which the current owner(who is approximately 70 years old) states was moved to the site by his grandfather. Sheds were subsequently added to the east and west sides of the barn, and in 1950, the second barn was "pushed up alongside." Construction techniques, plan and materials suggest that the main section dates to the mid-19th century, and that the move took place soon after the introduction of wire nails. A hand-driven, cable prize is the only one of its kind seen during the survey.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

Leroy

and/or common Dowell Barn A

2. Location

street & number Clyde Jones Rd.

___ not for publication

city, town Sunderland

___ vicinity of

congressional district

state MD

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Leroy Dowell

street & number

telephone no.: 257-2834

city, town Sunderland

state and zip code

MD 20689

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber AWR 34

street & number Main Street (MD 765)

folio 114

city, town Prince Frederick

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1092

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site

☒ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See Attachment.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1092

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

See Attachment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1092

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name North Beach, MDQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tora . Williamsen-Berryc/o Calvert County Historic District Commission
organization Dept. of Planning and Zoning date June 30, 1990street & number Courthouse telephone 535-1600city or town Prince Frederick state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1092

Leroy Dowell barn A is located on a large field adjacent to the high school along Clyde Jones Rd, approximately one mile from its intersection with highway 2. It is oriented on a north-south axis. A farm road runs past the south gable end. The barn that is built up next to it is built on to the north side. Dowell barn A was moved here by Mr. Leroy Dowell's (70 years old) great grandfather who moved here from the Dares Beach Rd. area. At that time, the two sheds on the east and west sides were built. Around 1950, barn B was pushed up alongside barn A to form a structure composed of two barns. Dowell barn A measures thirty-two by twenty-four feet and has hewn timbers. Mostly wire nails are visible.

Dowell barn A is divided into four eight foot wide bays. It contains eight rooms. There is a four foot wide door on the south gable end. The frame is supported on mortared brick and field stone foundations. The posts of barn A are hand hewn, and joined via mortise and tenon joints with trunnels. The sill, down braces, nailers, and other timbers are also hand hewn. Primarily wire nails are in place. There are some fully mature machine-cut nails visible on the nailers, possibly remaining from prior to the move. The south side is covered with plain vertical wall siding. The east and west walls were sided at one time, as was the north wall. The nailing pattern and some of the nails that remain attest to this. The roof has shingle nailers underneath the metal covering. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The roof is supported by windbraces and three collars. The distance between the peeled log tier poles varies from thirty-five to forty-two inches. The poles down the center are peeled logs separated by four feet between.

The east shed measures sixteen feet wide. It has a double door on its east facade. It is divided into four eight foot wide bays. According to Mr. Dowell, the shed was added when the barn was moved here. The frame is supported on brick and concrete block piers. The posts are joined to the plate via mortise and tenon joints with trunnels. The nailers are pit sawn, and the tie beams and sills are circular sawn. Wire nails are most evident. There is a hand-driven cable tobacco prize located in this eastern shed. The walls are covered with vertical wall siding. The roof was originally shingled, but is now covered with corrugated metal.

The west shed is also sixteen feet wide. It has a double door on its west facade. The timbers in this shed are all circular sawn and nailed with wire nails. The roof has shingle nailers underneath the current metal covering. This shed is used for packing tobacco.

7. DESCRIPTION (CONT.) CT-1092

The fourteen foot wide west shed was added at the barn's plate line, and had a double door entrance opposite the barn's central passage. The frame is supported by fieldstone piers and concrete blocks. It is built of circular sawn lumber, and wire nails are used. The roof is metal. There are no tier poles left, but supports nailed to the exterior of the barn suggest that the main purpose of this west shed was probably tobacco curing. There is tack storage and stalls are in place in the northern half of this west shed.

The easternmost shed was added at the plate level of the east shed next to the barn. It also appears to have been used for tobacco, but perhaps was also intended for equipment storage. It is constructed of circular sawn lumber, and wire nails. There are no tier poles in place, but supports nailed to the exterior of the shed suggest this use. The metal roof is original and extant.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1092

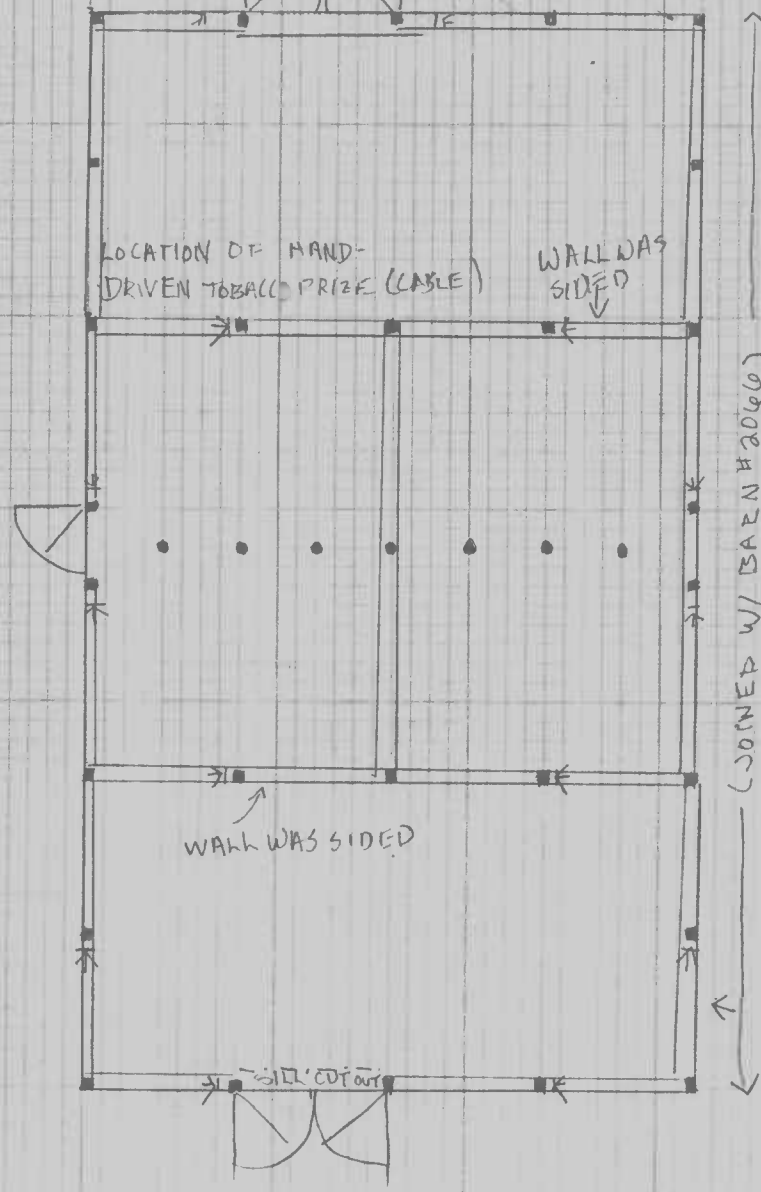
This barn is significant for several reasons. It dates at least as early as the early-mid nineteenth century, as evidenced by the hewn timbers and fully mature machine cut nails. It was moved to its current location probably soon after the introduction of wire nails. At this time, the two sheds were built. It is unusual to find a barn that is known to have been moved. The moving of a structure may help to explain some of the anomalies found during this survey in certain of the structures. The hand-driven cable tobacco prize is the only one of its kind seen. The thirty-two by twenty-four foot measurements and the cross-axial plan of the barn are typical of the ante-bellum period.

This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1830; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

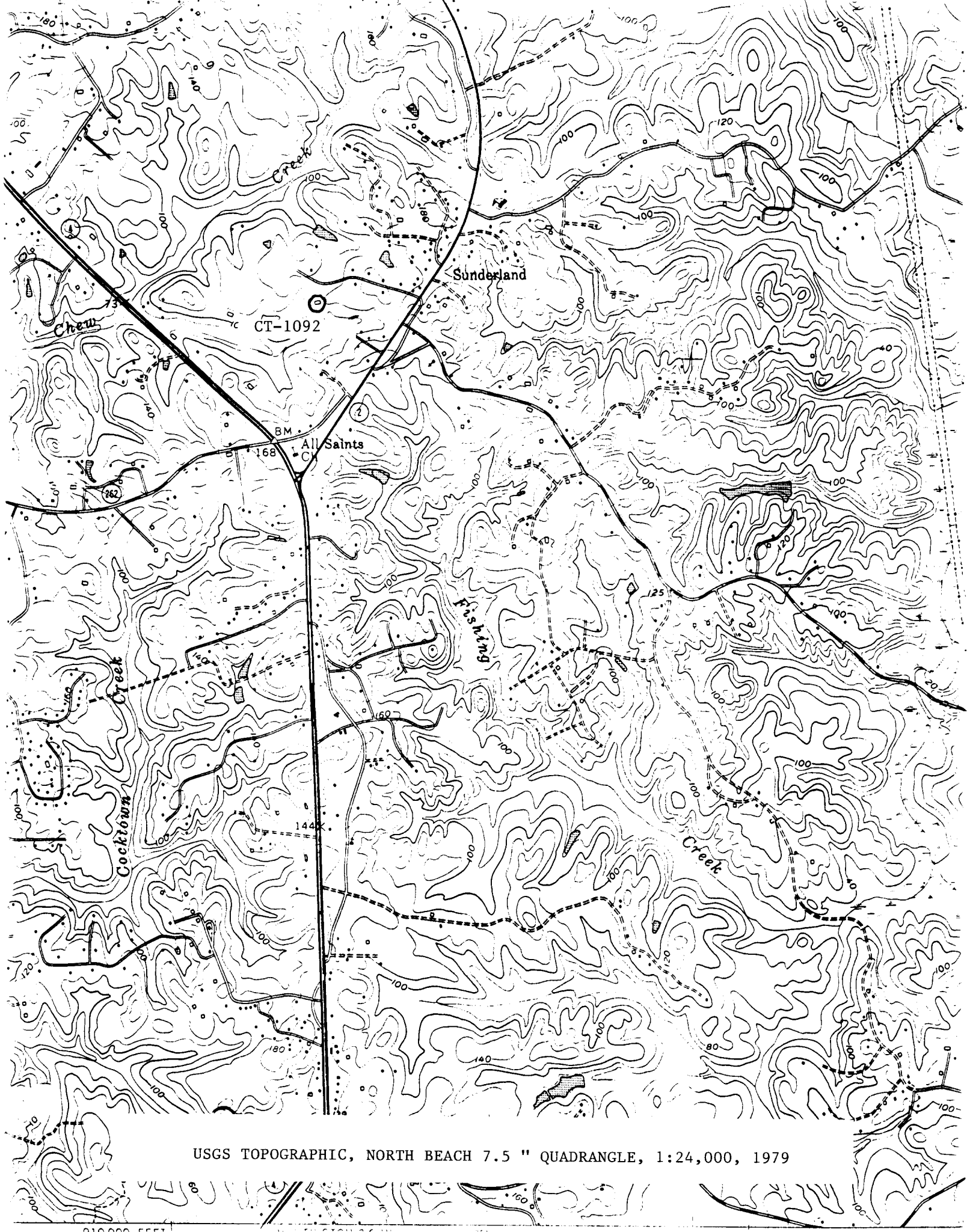
The most significant change this barn has undergone is the fact that it was moved. At that time, sheds were added to the east and west sides. According to Mr. Dowell, circa 1950, another barn was built on to its north side.

CT-1092
 BARN # 2065 11/23/90 TL DOWELL BARN A



← SOME SIDING REMAINS FROM
 BEFORE JOINED W/ ADOTN. →

50 G.G.F
 20 G.F
 20 Filler



USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, NORTH BEACH 7.5 " QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1979



ET-1092/1093

LEROY DOWELL BARN A & B

HUNTINGTOWN

TORA L. WILLIAMSEN

EAST

MAY 1990